

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-50 are pending in the application. The Office has rejected claims 1-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,185,557 to Liu.

Claims 51-53 are newly added, support for which is found in the original specification.

The § 102(e) Rejection in view of Liu

Regarding Applicant's claims 1, 18 and 34, Liu does not teach or suggest "changing a not-match variable" *when no match is found* between the loaded row(s) of a first table and a loaded row of a second table, as required Applicant. Rather, as the Office notes, Liu teaches "marking the first match row as a join row" *if a first match is found* (see Liu, col. 8, lines 25-39). A person of ordinary skill in the art would readily appreciate that *marking a row* from a first table *in the event a match is found* with a row from a second table, is not at all the same thing as, nor is it even suggestive of, changing a not-match variable *when no match is found*. Therefore, Liu does not teach or suggest all the elements of Applicant's claims 1, 18 and 34. The result is that claims 1, 18 and 34, and their dependents, are patentable over Liu.

Conclusions

In light of the foregoing, Applicant asks the Office to reconsider this application and allow all of the claims. Please apply any charges that might be due, excepting the issue fee but including fees for extensions of time, to deposit account 14-0225.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Cowart", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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